



Foggy Bottom News

May 1994

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom and West End

Volume 39, No. 7

Western/Miriam's Kitchen Update

As we go to press, plans are under way for an April 22, 1994 hearing before the D.C. City Council's Committee of the Whole. The Committee is considering the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) request to close a public alley needed for its enormous planned addition to the current IMF building at 19th and H Streets.

The Western Presbyterian Church recently sought and on April 14 was granted a temporary restraining order (TRO) in the U.S. District Court to overturn a D.C. Zoning Administrator's September 1993 ruling. He determined that the church needs to apply for a special exception or a use variance before it could operate a homeless feeding program at 24th Street and Virginia Avenue, in a densely residential neighborhood. The church challenged the city's authority to regulate any land uses by churches, an authority exercised by hundreds of cities across the country. The judge in the Federal Court ruled that the feeding program could commence. Western announced plans to begin on Monday, April 18. The D.C. Corporation Counsel is considering whether or not to appeal the decision. Councilmembers John Ray and Jack Evans have urged that they do so.

There has been considerable national and local media covering the church's recent maneuvers. Particularly noteworthy was a front page Sunday *New York Times* article and a one-hour debate between Barbara Kahlow and Rev. Wimberly on CNN's "Sonya Live." Also, the ABC national news (World News Tonight), the CBS national news (CBS Evening News), and CSN's 700 Club (the Pat Robertson show) covered the latest events surrounding the church.

Neighbors Oppose Proposed GWU Dormitory

St. Mary's Episcopal Church and neighborhood resident Mrs. Florie Williams opposed the proposed George Washington University dormitory at 24th & H Streets, NW, at a hearing to review the merits of the project. Representatives from St. Mary's claimed that additional traffic in the alley entering the dormitory will pose a dangerous threat to the integrity of its buildings which are historic landmarks.

Mrs. Florie Williams, home owner and occupant of 2310 H Street, NW, lives next to the site of the proposed dormitory. The 9-story building would be 2 feet away from her home and a loading dock and trashcompactor would be immediately to the rear of her house. Mrs. Williams stated that the proposed dormitory would effectively "impede her ability to live her life in a community of her choice." Mrs. Williams refused to sell her home under the terms offered by George Washington University.

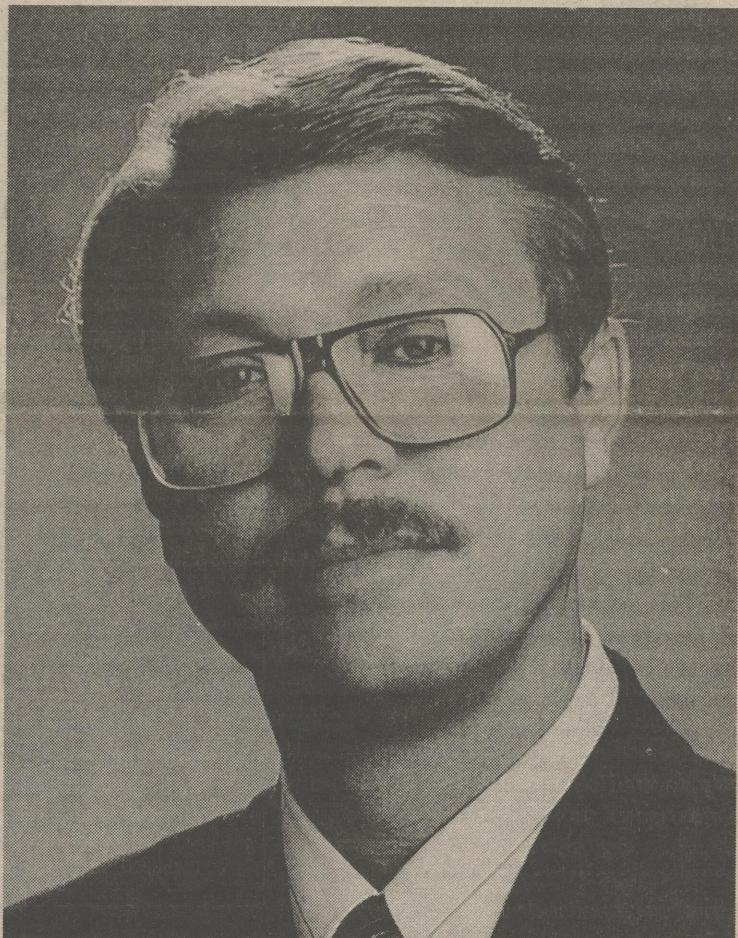
Both parties provided testimony before the Board of Zoning Adjustment on March 23, 1994. The Foggy Bottom and West End ANC conditionally endorsed the dormitory at its regularly scheduled meeting in March.

Zoning Commission Reaffirms Decision To Approve WETA Project

On April 11, the D.C. Zoning Commission voted 5-0 to approve the joint WETA/George Washington University project after reopening the case to consider Congressman Fortney Stark's proposed legislation regarding the application of the Height Limits Act to buildings

continued on page 6

Tom Sherwood Speaks At April 25 Meeting



Tom Sherwood is the political reporter for WRC-TV Channel 4 and claims to have actually read a budget book or two.

His principal assignment now is to cover the administration of DC Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly, regional politics, and occasional stories from the Clinton Administration.

Sherwood joined WRC in November 1989, covering the administration and later arrest of Marion Barry. He was hired away from *The Washington Post* by the lure of more money and a desire to learn more about television because so many people get their news from TV.

Tom also is a regular weekly panelist on WETA-TV "Metro Week" — a public affairs show on Washington regional issues. He is a frequent guest on the Mark Plotkin-Derrick McGinty Show on WAMU-FM, and is invited each semester by Foggy Bottom resident Charles Puffenbarger to guest lecture in the advanced journalism class at George Washington University.

Tom, along with coauthor Harry Jaffe of *Washingtonian* magazine, recently completed work on a Simon & Schuster book on local Washington politics and culture since the 1960s. It is scheduled to be published this spring.

Tom is a native of Atlanta, a U.S. navy veteran ('68-69 at the Washington Navy Yard), and attended Georgia State University. Tom is 47.

A son, Peyton, 15, was born in Washington, D.C., and already is showing the signs of abject skepticism seen in his father.

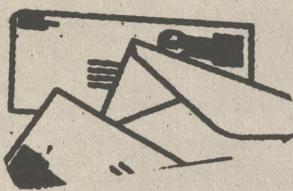
FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION MEETING

Speaker:

Tom Sherwood
WRC-TV Channel 4

Monday, April 25, 1994
St. Paul's Parish House
2430 K Street, N.W.
7:30 p.m.

(Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 31)

**Letters****Goldmark Questions Conditions at the Library**

Question: are Foggy Bottom residents totally helpless in the face of what has become of the local library? It is no longer a place where area residents read and study; it is now a gathering and *daytime sleeping place* for derelicts, who often occupy nearly every seat. Seating, though, is not the main problem, nor are the occasional fights I've witnessed: I sometimes don't even get as far as looking for a seat, since the odor is overwhelming as soon as I open the library door (some of these permanent library residents take their shoes off and/or carry their dirty laundry with them into the library and one can only guess at when is the last time some of them took a shower or changed clothes).

Though anyone attempting to use the West End Library on a regular basis can attest to the truthfulness of the above, I am concerned that this letter might nonetheless be dismissed as some callous and insensitive outburst. It is nothing of the sort. One needn't be insensitive to the social problems around us to draw attention to what has become of this library branch. Also, it may well be that for legal reasons the hands of library staff and library security are tied for the most part; this, however, hardly explains why *existing library rules are not being applied* in regard to sleeping, odors offensive to other patrons, etc.

Kathleen S. Goldmark

Eng Notes International Aspect to WETA Project

The *FBN* article "NCPC Endorses WETA Project" (April 1994) stated that formal requests to the NCPC for reconsideration were filed by Marija Hughes and the D.C. Federation of Citizens Associations.

The West End Citizens Association (WECA) would like to clarify that since our organization geographically includes the proposed GWU/WETA site, WECA is also formally on the record of the NCPC as supporting a reconsideration. However, WECA also notes that the petition we filed included an international aspect to the concern expressed by many that there may be possible negative health effects from electromagnetic field (EMF) emissions.

In particular, countries such as Sweden have adopted EMF standards for the protection of human health. Furthermore an August, 1993 *Lews* magazine article — "Indecent Exposure" by Nicols Fox — cites that the World Bank specifically designed its new buildings to include mitigation of EMF effects. WECA feels that the NCPC would want to protect "the federal interest" through a request for a formal review of the GW/WETA project by such international organizations as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank both because they are neighbors of the proposed site and because their employees may be subjected to health hazards currently unacceptable in their home countries.

Ronald M. Eng
WECA Delegate
D.C. Federation of
Citizens Associations

Foggy Bottom News**The Becker Beat**

Dear Steve (as in Stephen Joel Trachtenberg):

The papers crossing my desk on GWU's new buildings are threatening to drown and frazzle me. My reactions, some serious, some a mite lighter: A. How much more confusing can it be? We have WETA (Washington Educational Television Association) and WETA (West End Tenants Association). One must read VERY carefully!

B. The GWU building boom is awesome. There are the Marvin Center, WETA, the dorm, Health & Wellness, etc., etc., almost ad nauseum. It elicits three reactions: (1) The GWU Finance Committee must be under a lot of stress; (2) Is the GW administration trying to put the neighborhood activists on overload?; and (3) the GW manpower involved in these building plans must also be on overload — what were they doing to occupy their days before all these buildings kept them busy?

C. Can someone explain: Why is the WETA building, with its relatively quiet classrooms, offices and studio, being built in the middle of the campus, and a large dorm building with its young, lively, noisy and relatively disruptive presence being built adjacent on three sides to non-university residential buildings?

Idea: Why not switch locations? What a boon to those who live in the three adjacent buildings! You'd get a whole passel of thanks for that decision!!!

May 1994

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Foggy Bottom News

The *Foggy Bottom News* is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

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All announcements, letters, articles are welcome but must be typed double spaced. Please include an evening phone number. Send to:

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Washington, D.C. 20037

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In My Opinion —

City Administrator Mallett Hears From FB Residents

At the end of the Derrick McGinty show on November 2nd, you expressed pleasure at hearing the views of Reverend Wimberly, and indicated that you would be equally pleased to hear the views of the community.

We are all residents of Foggy Bottom living in different condominium, cooperative or rental buildings in close proximity to Western Presbyterian's new church. We do not represent the ANC or the Foggy Bottom Association but, now or in the past, have all been officers of our respective governing boards. We have formed an ad hoc no name group to discuss how Miriam's Kitchen will affect our community, and how we might respond.

Although we all have different ideas on the subject, we do agree on three things:

- (1) A belief that setting up a soup kitchen to feed up to 360 homeless will be a destabilizing influence in our residential neighborhood. We believe that this destabilization will result from the fact that the majority of the homeless in our community are single men, a population most of whom are reportedly alcoholics, drug addicts or mentally disturbed.
- (2) A belief that any solution to the problem of homelessness lies in the area of intensive treatment and rehabilitation, not merely in a feeding program.
- (3) A desire to work with the city in an effort to overcome the impasse that has developed between the community and Western Presbyterian Church.

We should very much like to meet with you to discuss this further. One of us will call your office to arrange a meeting for a time convenient to you.

Allan Beckanstain
Daniel Dixler
Kerry Stowell
Joycelyn Vigor

Callanan Disagrees with "Chilling Decision"

As a retired woman who has lived in Foggy Bottom for 26 years and attended St. Stephen Martyr Church for the same period of time, I was dismayed to read your editorial "Chilling Decision," which appeared in the March 17 issue of *The Catholic Standard*. I can only assume that whoever wrote that editorial does not have all the facts.

First, the proposed homeless feeding program at the new location of Western Presbyterian Church, which the editorial strongly endorses, has until now been running in a commercial area at the WPC's old location at 19th and H streets surrounded by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and PEPCO, all of which have guards. The new location would be at 24th and G streets. In between the old and new location is the George Washington University campus, which has its own police force. Starting at 24th Street, however, there is no special police force. At best, most of the apartment buildings in Foggy Bottom have only unarmed desk clerks in their lobbies. Residents of town houses must see to their own security.

Second, the Foggy Bottom Association has contributed monetarily to the feeding program in past years and some residents of Foggy Bottom have served as volunteers in the program. However, the FBA opposes the program in the new area as does our elected Advisory Neighborhood Commission because of the dangers it poses for our heavily residential area.

Third, it has been estimated that as many as 75% of the homeless are mentally ill, substance abusers, or both, and it is known they are capable of violence. (Let us not forget the young woman whose life was brutally taken by a homeless man not too long ago in Mont-

Foggy Bottom News

gomery County.) Moreover, we are not talking about dozens of homeless in the WPC feeding program but hundreds.

Fourth, you have described our neighborhood as "upscale." It is certainly true that we have some wealthy inhabitants in Foggy Bottom, but we don't all live at the Watergate. In fact, in the same block in which the homeless would enter their new dining area, we have St. Mary's Court, a rent-subsidized apartment building for retired people. St. Mary's is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year, but I have seen no articles or editorials on how welcome this home for the less well off is in our community. The fact is that the majority of our population is middle class and we contribute much to the city in the form of income taxes, disposable income, and donations to churches and other charitable organizations.

Fifth, the population of Foggy Bottom is heavily female and many of these women are elderly and infirm. I don't know if any of your staff attended the Zoning Board hearing on the WPC's relocation of its feeding program. If they had, they might have noticed that the majority against were women who expressed concern for their safety and security. One of the testifiers for the church brushed off these expressions of concern by saying that the majority of criminal acts committed by the homeless are non-violent, such as urinating in public and breaking into empty buildings. All I could think as I watched these proceedings was "they just don't get it!"

I know that one of the corporal works of mercy is to "feed the hungry." But I think we need to add a new one to the list, "protect women, the elderly, and the infirm from violence and harassment." By all means let us aid the homeless not only by feeding and sheltering them but by curing those who can be cured and finding them jobs and affordable housing. But let us find a way to do this without endangering and frightening other vulnerable people in all our communities, rich, middle class, and poor.

Finally, please give some thought to the future of Washington, D.C. This city is losing its middle class in alarming numbers. Disappearing with these people are their income tax payments to the District of Columbia, which even now is on the brink of bankruptcy. How many of our churches will be here 50 years from now if Washington becomes the home solely of the poor, the homeless, and the criminal?

Margaret Joan Callanan

Have Compassion, Rev. Wimberly . . .

For the 200 homeless that Miriam's Kitchen would bring into our neighborhood, think of the several thousand in Foggy Bottom, many elderly, who see their whole way of life threatened by violence and disorder.

Think of the elderly couple whose greatest pleasure is going to Kennedy Center for a musical program. Now too risky, they will lock their door and stay in this evening, or the necessary trip to the Safeway or Peoples, not every evening anymore. And pair off or go in a group if possible.

Think of the woman worker who tucks a dollar bill in her pocket to be given to the aggressive panhandler to avoid in-

sult or worse. For these, Reverence Wimberly, compassion!

But if we object strongly to something threatening, we should try to offer an alternative. I have investigated: there are at least a half dozen breakfast feeding programs in our northwest area. For a small expense a shuttle bus could carry the homeless from the 19th Street location to one of these.

S.O.M.E. (So Others May Eat) At their 71 O Street, N.W. dining room they feed over 1100 a day. Breakfast from 7:30; lunch from 11:30.

Salvation Army: Perhaps the best bet. The Army operates a feeding van each afternoon



from 17th and Pennsylvania to 21st and Virginia. For a modest contribution for expenses, we might arrange for the Army to operate the van early mornings as far as 19th Street. If the IMF still wants no part of the homeless, let us investigate these possibilities.

Some of us feel your members have little regard for the people of Foggy Bottom, because not even a dozen actually live near your new location. But if violence and trashing of the neighborhood becomes too alarming, one of your supporters, Mr. Dixon, promises "... church members will patrol the area, discipline the disruptive people, and clean up when necessary."

One homeless man is quoted, if the kitchen is closed down, "it could lead normally law-abiding citizens to participate in illegal activities. When people are hungry, they feel more desperate and might engage in desperate actions." Threatening what, for instance? Remember, one woman knocked down and robbed of her purse, one person injured by a burglar in the home, the whole neighborhood is justifiably frightened.

A final plea: some of your supporters have suggested if the kitchen is brought over it might be expanded to include Sunday mornings. Then some of the homeless might also benefit from your morning services. If you do ignore the ruling, Reverence Wimberly, will you pledge to invite the homeless on Sunday mornings as well?

Don Tobey

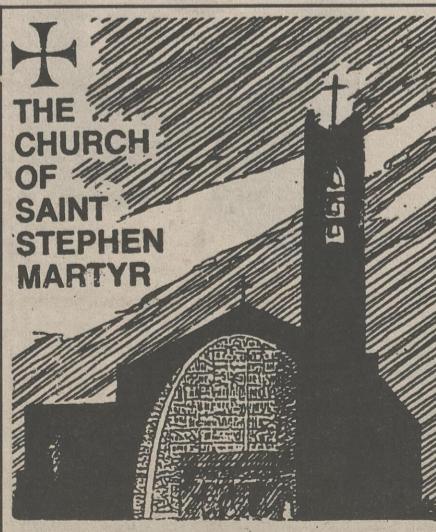


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Sidewalk Talk

By Betty Olsen

Now you see him, now you don't — talk about a man on the move. Milton Carrow has been to California to visit his daughter who teaches at UCLA, to Block Island, and just returned from a Caribbean island. Whew — what a wonderful whirlwind life he enjoys. Even plays tennis in between but states that his backhand is not doing too well these days.

My daughter Kirsten and I motored to Tennessee to see kinfolks (as they say down there) and on our way home cut across North Carolina through the Blue Ridge Mountains. The weather was frightful and the saying "If the Good Lord is willing and the criks don't rise" took on a whole different meaning. Little did we know at the time that we had been on the end of tornado alley that day.

What a pleasant surprise. I was walking on the sidewalk the other day and ran into a neighbor and she was carrying a large box. When I asked her what she had she said that she was fond of certain corned beef and had tracked down the supplier and buys it by the box — 30 pounds of it. I exclaimed, "How do you eat 30 pounds?" as she lives alone. She replied, "Well, I give some to my mother and sister and then there isn't that much left. Then she

looked at me and smiled her lovely smile and said, "Would you like one to enjoy?" Well my smile matched hers for 9.2 on the Richter scale and while my pupils dilated she opened the box and presented me with the prettiest corned beef I had ever seen. Well, strangely enough it just happened to be St. Patrick's Day but any day it would have been a pleasant surprise. Then you better believe I hugged her real good and returned home with the wind to my back — an Irish proverb which means good luck.

Anne and Bob Charles took a weekend on the Eastern Shore. One of the highlights of the visit was to be with her uncle from New Jersey, who is in his eighties and who will marry this summer. He plans a small wedding and a BIG party just like the Charles had once upon a time.

Margie Pfister (just like the faucet she said) called to say that she enjoys the *Foggy Bottom News* even though she moved from the neighborhood to the Eastern Shore when her husband's work changed. She still banks at First Union in Columbia Plaza and picks up each issue there during her work week at the Navy's Medical Department. That was really nice that she called. I wasn't expecting such a nice ring and it brightened the day for me. Is there someone that you have thought of that you could call to do the same? Pfister was a stranger to me but not now!

Thoughts for today: Treat everybody as you wish to be treated. Smile a lot, say thank you and please a lot and if you don't know say so or if you are wrong say I'm sorry.

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In Foggy Bottom we are blessed with a lively retail establishment. A multitude of shops and services are within walking distance, a treasure not enjoyed by suburbanites, who must drive their cars to purchase bread or milk. Do you remember those snowy, icy days, when we had groceries and other necessities available from retailers open and in business for all of us, without the need to dig out our cars?

Perhaps it is time to salute them who, while working of course in their own self-interest, kept our wants and needs satisfied. Except for the Mayor's emergency day, the owners and employees of our convenience stores, grocery and drug stores and hosts of others made their way, opened their doors, and accommodated our needs. The same was true for restaurants, beauty shops, copy shops and fast food sellers.

Easy access to these services, and of course to medical care, is a prime asset of urban living.

We owe to these merchants our awareness of what they contribute to Foggy Bottom. Chain outlets like Safeway and Peoples and Micks provide needed items, especially for those without cars to go elsewhere, and we welcome their presence.

But in many ways we owe more to the independents, those without the backup and support of large corporations. Think about the courage and enterprise of Danny Diaz, Watergate Wine & Beverage, Casey's, the West End Market, and even the 7-11 which is run by a franchisee.

These and many others in our area are the small businesses heralded as our country's most important employers, and who treat customers with that sometimes old-fashioned attribute, service.

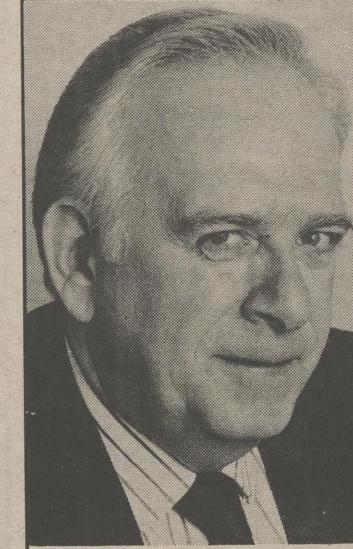
This writer for one always responds positively to service, brought on, I suppose, by having grown up when good service was the norm, not the exception. Even today it is not always necessary to pay more to be served well. We all know smaller retailers who are competitive in price, enjoy their jobs of dealing with the public, and treat them like friends.

So let's do our best to support these local entrepreneurs who make being a customer a more pleasant experience.

Think about it — is that big store or chain outlet always the best? What can compare with the old world courtesy of Joseph Soares at Donatello's, the friendly greeting of Cliff Parsons at Watergate Opticians, the welcoming smile and extra niceties Gloria at Tigani's grants her customers, and the classic charm of Dale Johnson of Watergate Gallery and Frame? And try the professional yet friendly Desi Gomes of Foggy Bottom Apothecary. He's practiced pharmacy in FB for years (formerly at Washington Circle Drug), he knows all our local doctors well, the prices are competitive, and he offers free delivery too.

What a message from a woman who makes her living working for an association of large companies! But I truly admire the small businessman who contributes so much to our country and to our neighborhood. They are too often unsung and being a newspaper editor lets me do some singing. My song — seek out our area entrepreneurs, try them out for price and service; I think you'll be glad you did.

Ellie Becker



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Proposed Hearings On Bus Fare Increases

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and the District of Columbia will hold hearings on proposed Metrobus fare and transfer increases in the District of Columbia. The hearings will be held as follows:

Tuesday, May 3, 1994, 7:30 pm, 600 Fifth Street, NW

Wednesday, May 4, 1994, 7:30 pm, 5601 Connecticut Ave., NW

Thursday, May 5, 1994, 7:30 pm, 621 Alabama Avenue, SE

The specific Metrobus fare and transfer proposals include reducing or eliminating the rail-to-bus transfer discount, increasing the intra-District of Columbia Metrobus fare for senior citizens from 30 cents to 50 cents and increasing the bus-to-bus transfer discount within the District of Columbia. Metro officials estimate that the proposed increases could generate up to \$10.6 million annually. Persons wishing to testify should call 202/962-1092 at least five days prior to the hearing.

Items of Interest from the DC Register By Barbara Kahlow

Public Meetings

- 3/25 City Council's Committee of the Whole on reappointment of Maybelle Taylor Bennett to the Zoning Commission
- 3/30 City Council's Committee on Housing on DC/HUD homeless initiative
- 4/20 Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) on GWU Health, Wellness & Fitness Center at 700-23rd Street
- 4/22 City Council's Committee of the Whole on closing of a public alley in square 120 (IMF case)

Other Notices

- 3/4 Effective dates of appointments to Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) (Concha Johnson & Desa Sealy on 2/17) & BZA (Angel Clarens on 2/23)
- 3/4 Zoning Commission Order denying text amendment on campus plans — regarding BZA review of any relocation of a major use within or outside of campus plan boundaries
- 3/11 Final vote on "Alcoholic Beverage Control Act & Rules Reform Amendment Act of 1994" (John Ray's bill)
- 3/11 HPRB reconsideration of addition to 2507 I Street
- 3/11 & 3/18 Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board final rule for East Dupont Circle & two proposed City Council resolutions for West Dupont Circle & Georgetown ABC moratoriums
- 3/25 Zoning Commission Order denying text amendment for more than 15 in youth residential care home in R-1 district (Hurt Home case)

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Neighborhood Datebook

Monday, April 25: Foggy Bottom Association Meeting, with WRC-TV political reporter Tom Sherwood as speaker. St. Paul's Parish Hall, 2430 K Street, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 30: West End Citizens Association meeting, State Plaza Hotel Diplomat Room, 2116 F Street, N.W. 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 4: Lisner at Noon concert, with classical pianist J.D. Williams. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St., N.W. 12:15 p.m.

Wednesday, May 11: Lisner at Noon concert, with The Primary Movers Dance Company. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St., N.W. 12:15 p.m.

Through Thursday, May 12: "International Perspectives," an exhibit featuring photographs and art work by international students studying at GWU and GWU students studying abroad, as well as artifacts collected during their travels. Highlighted are portraits of people from around

the world by Daniel Cima of the American Red Cross. Colonnade Gallery, 800 21st Street, N.W. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight.

Thursday, May 12: Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2-A meeting. Hotel Lombardy, 2019 Eye Street, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, May 14-15: Spring Bazaar, St. Stephen Martyr Church. Clothes, crafts, jewelry, baked goods, and lunch. 2436 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sun: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 18: Lisner at Noon concert, with soprano Paul Marnois. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St., N.W. 12:15 p.m.

Wednesday, May 18: Gathering sponsored by the Bahai's, with discussion of "Crises and Hope, Global and Personal." For information call Joan Bowman, 202-223-1164. St. Mary's Court, 725 24th Street, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

Chief Thomas Speaks at March FBA Meeting

The new chief, who spent his first three years as a policeman on patrol in Foggy Bottom, admitted that the fear level in D.C. is high, but stated that crime is down. Part of his job, he said, is "to convince you, you're safe so you'll stay in the city."

Asking that we keep things in perspective, he stated that 467 persons has been shot and killed — "and any more than none is bad" — but that the figure in New York City is 2000. He asked us to remember that fortunately thousands of tourists come and go, and in recent years only one has been involved in a major incident — and he was in a back alley, not on the street. He also asked us to remember that there are 85,000 children in D.C. schools, and only a few have guns; and the majority of schools have not had incidents.

Also at the meeting was Inspector Kenneth Hutson, who heads the Second District. He reported a 16% drop in crime in our sector. Introduced was Lt. Tom McCauley who will supervise the police in Foggy Bottom's sector while Captain Swope is at the FBI Academy for advanced training.

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With an overwhelming 99 sales transactions in the District of Columbia during 1993, Prudential's **Tom Murphy** of the DC/M Street office was again #1 in sales transactions. This is the fourth consecutive year that he has earned this designation. Murphy also was honored as the Washington, DC Association of Realtors' 1993 #4 associate in dollar volume. Ranked among the top 1% nationwide and a member of The Prudential Preferred Properties Hall of Fame, Mr. Murphy is also a Life Member of WDCAR's Top Producer's Club.

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Kelly Responds to Petition for Recall

Ed Kelly, Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for ANC-2A05, responded to a petition for recall by stating that he "believes allegations are totally groundless and requests voters in his district to vote against the recall." Commissioner Kelly's single member district includes Columbia Plaza and several large George Washington University dormitories.

The petition for recall was filed on March 24, 1994 by neighborhood resident Dorothy Miller because, she claims, Commissioner Kelly did not provide "adequate consultation with his constituents on proposed 'alternative plans' of George Washington University for its Marvin Center." She further claims that he voted to support an alternative plan which was favorable only to GWU and West End Apartment residents. The original design, proposed by GWU, was approved by the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) subsequent to the petition for recall.

Kelly countered Miller's claims by stating that he participated in nine meetings convened by the Columbia Plaza Tenants Association and spoke with Ms. Miller over 30 additional times on substantive ANC issues. Kelly participated in negotiations only after a majority of ANC Commissioners authorized such actions. Negotiations were initiated after ANC-2A's legal counsel advised that any agreement would not undermine an appeal or other ANC-2A issues.

For the recall to proceed, the Board of Elections and Ethics has determined that 10% (58) of the registered voters in Kelly's district must sign a petition by June 2, 1994. If the required number of signatures are obtained, a mail-in election will be scheduled.

Zoning Commission (continued from page 1)

in the District of Columbia. The Zoning Commission voted not to hold another hearing to assess whether or not the proposed legislation should govern the WETA project. Zoning Commissioner Parsons stated that this project "should not be held hostage to this bill" although he did recommend that the Commission review how this legislation would impact future projects.

Congressman Fortney "Pete" Stark, representative from California who sits on the Committee on the District of Columbia, proposed legislation that would prohibit issuance of a construction permit for the GW-WETA building. Stark claims that the building's penthouse structure which contains mechanical equipment is not adequately set back and thereby contravenes the intent of the 1910 Height Limits Act.

A Note from the Editor

It saddens me, and I believe many others, to see people in our neighborhood take legal action, in such a public and angry fashion, against our hardworking ANC Commissioners. Anyone who attends ANC meetings regularly must have seen the results of the work and commitment of Ed Kelly and Jean Swift. Probably the best-educated as to technical matters before the Commission, Kelly works long and hard, often on dry but essential matters such as the comprehensive plan, using his broad background in urban matters. Jean Swift, sitting in the hot seat of the ANC Chair, is calm and unemotional, moving the meetings along while allowing all views to be heard.

This public squabbling hurts us as a neighborhood which needs to be united. And it hurts us "downtown" when our disagreements are trumpeted all over town. Surely there is a better way!

ANC-2A Highlights March 29 Special Meeting

The ANC updated the community on the status of negotiations with the George Washington University regarding a potential agreement on the proposed expansion of the Marvin Center. If executed, the agreement, based on an architectural plan put forth by the West End Tenants Association, would enclose a loading dock, move tiered classrooms from above the Betts Theater in the Marvin Center to the space above the newly-enclosed loading dock, and terrace-back the remaining new additions above the theater. This alternative would minimize the negative impact on the neighboring West End Apartment building. The plan would be contingent on an alley closing which the D.C. City Council would have to approve. Jean Swift, Chair and Ed Kelly are representing the ANC in the negotiations with the University as authorized by a majority of the Commissioners. (Subsequent to the meeting, the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment approved the original design proposed by GWU. If an agreement is reached, the University is still willing to implement an alternative design).

April 14 Meeting

IMF Alley Closing. Unanimously passed a resolution requesting that the D.C. City Council make the International Monetary Fund (IMF) alley closing contingent on the IMF providing a feeding program for 200 homeless persons in the downtown commercial area. The alley closing is the last approval required before the IMF can proceed with constructing an addition to its existing building.

2507 I Street. Unanimously passed a resolution opposing the owner's request before the

Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) to approve a proposed addition in the rear of a lot which is located in the Foggy Bottom Historic District. The owner is proposing to connect the existing house to a three-story free-standing structure by way of a covered walkway with a 17-foot high wall.

Health & Wellness Center. Passed a resolution opposing the proposed George Washington University development project to construct an athletic and re-

creation facility at 23rd & G Streets. The facility would be located next to St. Mary's Church, an historic landmark that was built in 1886 and designed by James Renwick, the architect who designed the Corcoran Gallery and the Smithsonian Castle.

Next ANC-2A meeting: Thursday, May 12th at 7:30 p.m. **Location:** Lombardy Hotel, 2019 I Street, N.W. For more information, call 659-0011.

Swift Declines to File Counter Suit Against Tyler, et al.

Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission Chair Jean Swift has decided not to counter-sue three neighborhood residents who filed a lawsuit against her, alleging conflict of interest stemming from Swift's actions on the proposed George Washington University Marvin Center development project. Swift stated that "it's important for people to know that she does not want to make a bigger issue out of this case."

On March 4th, two ANC-2A Commissioners Tyler and Lauda, and Dorothy Miller, a Columbia Plaza resident, filed a lawsuit against Swift requesting that she be barred under the conflict of interest requirements of the ANC from voting on any matter involving the West End Apartment building. Swift is a renter in the West End which is next to the Marvin Center. ANC-2A voted 4-1 to support negotiations with GWU over a proposed compromise design for the Marvin Center.

Swift is awaiting a ruling from the D.C. Office of Campaign Finance that there was no conflict since she had no financial gain. After a ruling is issued, the D.C. Corporation Counsel is expected to file a motion to dismiss the case given that there was no conflict of interest and the lawsuit was inappropriate since Tyler, et al., did not exhaust all administrative remedies prior to filing their complaint as required by law. If the motion to dismiss is not granted, Swift must appear before the D.C. Superior Court on June 3, 1994.

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IONA Aging Expert Named Washingtonian of the Year

Elizabeth Fox of IONA Senior Services was named a "Washingtonian of the Year." She is one of 15 men and women chosen for vision, achievement and involvement in local community affairs.

For the past 11 years, Fox has directed IONA Senior Services — which stands for Independence, Opportunities and a Network for Aging. The core services of the model agency include adult day care, nutrition and recreational programs, social and health services, advocacy and education; in addition to basic services, the non-profit agency sponsors a variety of activities including art exhibits, fashion shows and oral history projects. IONA Senior Services has a staff of 35 and more than 700 volunteers of all ages in all professions.

Among programs initiated by IONA is C.A.R.E. (Community Action to Reach the Elderly) in Foggy Bottom.

The project, now community-based, currently provides a variety of services and programs for older people in Foggy Bottom including:

• Shopping Partners Program

Sheraton City Centre Hotel employees — who are paired with elderly residents — volunteer two hours per week to assist them with grocery shopping and other light errands.

• Make a Wish Program:

Volunteers fulfill "wishes" or other "special" requests for older people such as a special outing to dinner at a favorite restaurant, going to a movie, or baking a birthday cake.

• Future community programs

Other programs the coalition would like to develop with your help include: transportation services, assistance with medical claims and other paperwork, fundraising, holiday events.

There is a close relationship between IONA and St. Mary's Court. The Luncheon activities at the Court are supplied by IONA, with its dietitian overseeing the menus.

Currently, under Fox's direction, IONA Senior Services is planning a new "state of the art" comprehensive service center designed for the burgeoning number of Washingtonians who are 60 years or older.

Persons interested in the nonprofit aging agency's programs and services or volunteer opportunities are urged to call (202) 966-1055.

Remember the Burma Shave Signs?

By John Graves
St. Mary's Court

"Don't shed a tear
For Allan Odell
He can't grow whiskers
In Heaven or Hell
Burma Shave"

Odell was the author of the countless catchy jingles which once entertained us as we drove along our highways. His family also owned the company and as a result of his poetic talents Burma Shave became a household name.

They were placed on metal

sign posts along farm fencerows, but disappeared about a generation ago. Each line of his mirthful meter had its own sign panel spaced about 50 feet apart so that one could read the entire jingle while driving. Of course, the old cars were a bit slower in those days; today in our fast speed wagons those Burma Shave signs would look like a picket fence.

Some were clever, some were philosophical and others were just plain silly, but what fun because cars did not have radios in those days. They were signs of the time (I just could not resist that line). But like a lot of

Foggy Bottom News



Elizabeth Fox



Bishop Ronald Haines chats with a guest at the St. Mary's party.



Hazel Goodwin receives 15-year certificate from St. Mary's Board President Da Costa Mason.



Residents Florine Jones and Louise Gilbert play hostess for the evening.



Fern Robinette celebrates with her son Randy.



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BIZBUZZBIZBUZZBIZ

By Betty Olsen

A lovely invitation came in the mail recently from Rosanna Ruscetti, Director of the Lisner Auditorium. All lavender with purple print, it was an invite to take part in honoring Sylvia L. Kohrn on her retirement and in honor of her long-standing contributions to the Lisner. They asked for your favorite Sylvia stories to be written and sent so that they could be incorporated in a scrapbook to be presented to her. She was with Lisner almost 25 years, and before Lisner she was a founder of the American Light Opera Company. Her big break came in her 1968 debut as assistant manager at Lisner Auditorium. If you were to add up all of the children's shows, rock concerts, ballets, operas, jazz shows, traditional and international dance and music performances plus the commencements, convocations and comedians where Sylvia has starred in the role of manager, by their calculation she would have greeted, aided, entertained and greatly enriched the lives of more than 5,625,000 patrons, performers, students, ushers, colleagues, neighbors and friends over more than 6,250 nights. She would also have worn through a minimum of 300 pairs of high heeled shoes and consumed an estimated 600 bags of popcorn. Now its her time to stop and smell the roses. What a lovely way to salute an individual who has given such service. By the way an enjoyable profile of Ruscetti is in *By George* this month.

St. Mary's Court Cable reports that on the last Friday of each month in the afternoon

Tom Henrikus from Legal Counsel for the Elderly will be at St. Mary's Court to assist with legal issues and entitlements. He can help you with wills, advance directives (living wills), medicaid issues, etc. Other planned events for St. Mary's and you too if you're interested are conversational Spanish classes taught by Sammi Shore of GWU, blood pressure checks, foot doctor, and bookmobile. Then there are western dance classes every Wednesday. Also lip reading classes are in full swing every Wednesday. You have to sign up for these activities so that they know to expect you so call 223-5712.

Flicks and Things' man-on-duty Ty Akintoba finished his dissertation for his doctorate in International Law at GWU recently. His undergraduate degree is from St. Louis University.

2000 Pennsylvania Avenue recently had a spring fling where all the stores at that location took part, especially the restaurants which had a taste fare for those attending. Spoke to Laura of Bodywares there and she was telling me all about it. The new PR director at the mall is Paul Davis. Let us know in advance next time so we can be there with bells on or at least a big smile to be a part of the doings at your location.

The Visitors' Center at IMF will be closed for two years since construction of additions are under way.

If you haven't met Sandy Holland and Mike Freedman of GWU you've missed something special. Along with several others from the neighborhood, I went over to

see and hear the taping of William Buckley's Firing Line on the subject of welfare reform. It was splendid with Michael Kingsley as moderator this time and Buckley as a panelist. Congressman Charles Rangel of New York and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton were on opposing sides from Buckley but the two hours literally flew by hearing the solid points with humorous comments in between. It was a treat to be there. GWU is including us on their events on campus; I go every chance I get; you should too. Freedman is GWU's Director of Public Affairs and Holland is Executive Director of University Relations.

Secretary of Defense William Perry spoke to students and guests of The Elliott School of International Affairs and its Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies recently at the Betts Theatre in the Marvin Center on GWU's campus. He spoke on U.S. relations with the nations of the former Soviet Union. If you live in Foggy Bottom and West End areas these are programs that you would enjoy. Most are open to all of us so walk on over when you hear that one is scheduled.

Howsabout those Colonials? Both the women's and men's basketball teams were included in the NCAA tournament this year. Yea, team . . . errrrr . . . teams.

In a recent *Hatchet*, a GWU student newspaper, there was a letter to the editor by Don Tobey. It concerned giving the residents of Foggy Bottom a fair shake in discussing the homeless feeding program at the new Western Presbyterian Church. How about the rest of you

writing a letter to the editor on our community's behalf? They are picturing us to quite a degree as Black Barts which is not true.

Remember when you are a member of the Foggy Bottom Association by presenting your membership card you will get a discount at Casey's, Flowers by Sandra, The Intrigue in the Inn at Foggy Bottom, The New Shiro-Ya Japanese Restaurant, Watergate Gallery and Frame Design, Donatello Ristorante, the Garden Cafe, Magic Gourd, Tigani Hair Boutique, Inc. and Westbridge Valet. There are some restrictions so call ahead to be sure that the time you want to go that the

discounts apply. Tax and gratuities are not included and discounts can not be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Well, its time for Bill McDown of Safeway to retire and head to his ranch in Oklahoma with wife Ruth for more frequent stays but they will still live in this area in between. McDown is the one who has been writing us all each month from Safeway's Savings Club and including all those fun two-fers, freebies, etc. Jim Donald will be the new division manager of Safeway who will update us all on the doings there.

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Join the new Jazercise program, held Monday & Wednesday, 6:45 p.m., and Saturday, 11:00 a.m., at West End Place, 1099 22nd Street. Small, relaxed and congenial classes. \$6/class w/multiple class discount. Call 337-5528 for info. (No class on FBA meeting nights.)

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